Reduction in airfare

1236. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to bring down the domestic as well as the international airfare;

(b) whether another proposal has been mooted to abolish the 15 per cent Inland Travel Tax for all domestic carrier;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) by when these measures are likely to take concrete shape?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir. Government does not regulate the air fares on the domestic sector and airlines are free to determine the same in accordance with their commercial judgement and market forces. In so far as international fares are concerned, the policy of the Government is to go alongwith the fares decided by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) where all the airlines participate and pass unanimous resolution for increase in fares etc.

(b) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to abolish the "Inland Air Travel Tax".

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Losses by AI and IA

1237. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "IA continues to be in the red" which appeared in The Hindustan Times, New Delhi on the 22nd November, 2002;

(b) if so, what are the details of losses being incurred by Indian Airlines and Air India during the last two years; and